

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 DHA-02 /070 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3048
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 1443

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB PINS ET
SUBJ: MORE WORKERS EXPOSED AT FACTORIES

REF: ADDIS ABABA 1212

1. MARCH 10 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED WORKERS' REVOLUTIONARY DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF EIGHT AKAKI INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, 25 KMS. SOUTH OF ADDIS ABABA, EXPOSED 30 "PAID AGENTS" OF EPRP, EDU, AND ELF AMONG EMPLOYEES AT ADDIS TYRE AND CROWN CORK FACTORIES. THOSE EXPOSED ACCUSED BY WORKERS OF INVOLVEMENT IN CRIMINAL PLOTS OF KIDNAPPING AND ASSASSINATING REVOLUTIONARIES AND OF DEPLOYING TACTICS OF IMPERIALISM TO MISLEAD WORKERS. WORKERS REPRESENTATIVE DISCLOSED EPRP, EDU AND ELF "AGENTS", IN COLLABORATION WITH REACTIONARIES AND MONEY PROVIDED BY CIA, HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PLOTS AND HAVE ASSASSINATED MANY REVOLUTIONARIES. SPEAKER ADDED DEFENSE COMMITTEES WOULD LIQUIDATE PAID ASSASSINS THROUGH UNITED WORKERS' EFFORTS IN FUTURE. HE CONCLUDED EPRP, EDU AND ELF WOULD BE LIQUIDATED ALSO.

2. AKAKI DISTRICT, PROVISIONAL OFFICE FOR MASS ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS (POMOA) HEAD ALSO ADDRESSED
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GATHERING AND SAID OPPRESSED WORKERS' ACTIONS WOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO ONLY SHOUTING SLOGANS AT PUBLIC SQUARES. CAMPAIGN OF EXPOSING "AGENTS" HAD ALREADY BEGUN IN WOLISSO (SHOA) AND OTHER PLACES. POMOA REPRESENTATIVE ADDED AKAKI WORKERS WOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO THEIR SURROUNDINGS AND WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST PAID ASSASSINS AND BE

PERMITTED TO WIPE OUT REACTIONARIES IN ADDIS ABABA.

3. AKAKI INDUSTRIAL AREA HAS BEEN SCENE OF INTENSE STRUGGLE BETWEEN PRO AND ANTI-GOVERNMENT FACTIONS AMONG WORKERS. PRO-GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH ALL ETHIOPIAN SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION (AESO) WHILE ANTI-GOVERNMENT FACTION ASSOCIATED WITH ETHIOPIAN PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (EPRP). IN ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE AKAKI TEXTILE FACTORY WORKERS' LEADER WHO ALLEGEDLY FERVENT AESO MEMBER, EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WAS ACCIDENTALLY THROWN INTO INDIAN MANAGER'S RESIDENCE NEXT DOOR NEARLY ONE MONTH AGO WHICH RESULTED IN WIFE'S DEATH. RELIABLE SOURCE ALSO REPORTED TYRE AND CORK FACTORY WORKERS HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED IN PRO-GOVERNMENT RALLIES PAST 2 YEARS AND HAD RIDICULED THOSE WHO HAD DONE SO. ALTHOUGH ENGLISH MEDIA DID NOT MENTION IT, THE AMHARIC MEDIA REPORTED THAT CEMENT FACTORY WORKERS WHO HAD EXPOSED 18 "PAID AGENTS" ON FEBRUARY 26 ALSO PARTICIPATED IN EXPOSING AKAKI WORKERS.

4. COMMENT: SECOND MAJOR "EXPOSURE" OF "PAID ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY AGENTS" IN PAST TWO WEEKS SUPPORTS VIEW THAT WITCH HUNT TO ROOT OUT "REACTIONARY" ELEMENTS AMONG POPULATION HAS BEGUN IN EARNEST. ALSO, IT APPEARS PMAC ALLOWING POMOA AND REVOLUTIONARY DEFENSE COMMITTEES TO ACT AS VANGUARDS OF CAMPAIGN. PRIMARY TARGETS SEEM NOT UNNATURALLY TO BE AREAS WHERE EPRP HAS MADE GREATEST INROADS AND AESO HAS

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MET MOST RESISTANCE.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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